

IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Thomas S. Laubner et al.

Application No: 09/956,221

Filing Date: September 28, 2001

Title: MICROSTRIP ANTENNA WITH
IMPROVED LOW ANGLE
PERFORMANCE

Group Art Unit: 2821

Examiner: Wimer, M. C.

Confirmation No. 5888

Attorney Docket No: 17655

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Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attention: Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences

REPLY TO EXAMINER'S ANSWER

In the Examiner's Answer dated January 11, 2008, the Examiner has thoughtfully responded to most, if not all, of Applicant's many individual and specific points and arguments set forth in the Appeal Brief. Nevertheless, it is believed that the primary overarching issue is whether it is obvious that combining the raised ground plane of Murphy with the dielectric lens of Openlander would lead to the desired result of increasing radiation at angles less than 45° from the ground plane without substantially diminishing radiation closer to the zenith.

The relevant facts that inform the answer to this question are relatively simple. Specifically, the present invention combines a dielectric lens with a slightly raised ground plane to achieve the synergistic result of increasing

Noted
by
Examiner
MWP
5/5/2008